

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1431

FROM USDEL CCD (MEYERS)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US
SUBJ: SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE:
TURKISH INTEREST IN RELEVANT TECHNOLOGICAL
INFORMATION

REFS: (A) NATO 1030; (B) GENEVA 1038, DTG 141211Z
FEB 77 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: TURKISH POLAD'S REMARKS DERIVE FROM CON-
VERSATION BETWEEN US AND TURKISH DELS AT SEABED ARMS
CONTROL TREATY REVCON, INDUCING TURKDEL TO SUPPORT US
REVISION OF SWEDISH/ROMANIAN EFFORT HAVE UN SECRETARIAT
PROPOSE STUDY ON THIS AND OTHER SUBJECTS. NO RPT NO US
COMMITMENT WAS MADE TO PROVIDE RELEVANT TECHNOLOGICAL
INFORMATION, BUT USDEL INFORMALLY THOUGHT IF TURKS HAD
SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON SUBJECT, IT MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE
RAISE IN NATO CONTEXT. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING COURSE OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON
SEABED TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE, TURKISH DEL, AMONG
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OTHERS, INDICATED CONCERN REGARDING LACK OF INFORMATION
AVAILABLE ON RELEVANT TECHNOLOGY, AND ASKED WHAT US
REACTION WOULD BE IF THEY WERE TO INDICATE SUPPORT FOR
PROPOSAL BY SWEDEN AND ROMANIA THAT UN SECRETARIAT PRE-
PARE STUDY ON SUCH ISSUES. US DEL RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD
NOT BE DESIRABLE FOR SECRETARIAT TO BE TASKED WITH PRE-
PARING SUCH A STUDY, SINCE SELECTION OF RELEVANT

MILITARY AND CIVIL TECHNOLOGY WAS ESSENTIALLY A MATTER OF POLITICAL JUDGMENT AND COULD INVOLVE SENSITIVE SECURITY ISSUES. US DEL URGED THAT TURKISH DEL SUPPORT US COUNTER-PROPOSAL, DESCRIBED REF B, PARA 6, WHICH SAID UN SECRETARIAT MAY COMPILE QTE PAPERS ON TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS (MILITARY AS WELL AS PEACEFUL) RELEVANT TO THE TREATY WHICH PARTIES MAY WISH TO PROVIDE, OR WHICH IS OTHERWISE OFFICIALLY AVAILABLE TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL FROM GOVERNMENTS. END QTE. US DEL THOUGHT THAT, IF TURKS HAD QUESTIONS ON MILITARY TECHNOLOGY ISSUES, IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO RAISE THEM IN NATO THAN IN OPEN INTERNATIONAL MEETING. USREP MEYERS, SPEAKING TO US PROPOSAL ABOVE, STRESSED FACT THOSE DOCUMENTS WERE PURELY INFORMATION PAPERS AND IT WAS UP TO GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE MATERIAL, IF THEY WISHED.

3. COMMENT: MEMBERS OF US DEL TO PREPCOM CAREFULLY AVOIDED COMMITTING USG TO PROVIDING RELEVANT TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION EITHER TO INTERESTED NATO PARTIES OR IN FORM OF NATIONAL SUBMISSION TO UN SECRETARIAT. HOWEVER, USDEL SUGGESTS IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR USG TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE IN PROVIDING INFORMATION IN WHICH TURKS AND OTHER INTERESTED ALLIES HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST, TO DEGREE FEASIBLE, AND THAT INFORMAL NATO CHANNELS SEEM BEST MEANS FOR HANDLING QUESTIONS CONCERNING MILITARY TECHNOLOGY. IN THIS RESPECT, NATO FORUM MAY OFFER PRACTICAL MEANS FOR GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT EARLY DATE ON SEABED TREATY REVCON AND ISSUES LIKELY TO ARISE AT THIS REVCON (JUNE 20-JULY 1, 1977, CONFIDENTIAL

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IN GENEVA). US DEL SUGGESTS DEPARTMENT REPEAT REF B TO USNATO. END COMMENT.

4. MEMBERS OF NATO WHO ARE PARTIES TO THE SEABED TREATY INCLUDE: BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FRG, ICELAND, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, TURKEY, UK, AND US. GREECE AND LUXEMBOURG HAVE SIGNED, BUT NOT RATIFIED TREATY. CATTO

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